

15-year high; border facilities are 1,700 percent over capacity; 5,000 illegal aliens crossing the border have prior criminal records.

Mr. Biden recently named KAMALA HARRIS as a crisis manager for the border crisis he created.

Under her watch, the problem has gotten dramatically worse. Over 172,000 illegal-alien apprehensions have occurred, including 20,000 unaccompanied minors taken into custody in March—the highest monthly total in the history of the United States, and it is much greater.

The situation is charitably called a disaster. This needs to stop. We need order restored to the border and we need faithful execution of existing Federal laws.

To date, Mr. Biden has not responded to my invitation. Therefore, I stand on the House floor today to re-invite Mr. Biden and Ms. HARRIS to visit Yuma to see what my constituents are experiencing from this historical surge of illegal-alien border crossings.

□ 1215

#### RECOGNIZING BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK

(Ms. ADAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the fourth annual Black Maternal Health Week.

As the founder and co-chair of the Black Maternal Health Caucus, I want to take this time to speak briefly about the Black maternal health crisis in America, where Black mamas are disproportionately and needlessly dying.

Across the country, Black women from all walks of life are dying from preventable pregnancy-related complications at three and four times the rate of non-Hispanic, White women. However, 60 percent of Black maternal deaths are preventable.

Research suggests that the cumulative stress of racism and sexism undermines Black women's health, making them more vulnerable to complications that endanger their lives and the lives of their infants. Unfortunately, current healthcare practices are inadequate in addressing the health consequences of living with stress.

The Black Maternal Omnibus Act of 2021, a package of 12 bills, will comprehensively address every dimension of the maternal health crisis in America to save lives and end racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes.

This crisis demands urgent attention and serious action to save the lives of Black mothers, women of color, and other marginalized women across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues and this Congress to stand together with me to ensure that our mothers

and babies have the resources they need not only to survive but to thrive. Black mamas can't wait, and neither will we.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ZIGGY WILINSKI

(Mr. ZELDIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Ziggy Wilinski, who recently lost his battle with pancreatic cancer.

A Vietnam War veteran and USPS postmaster and general manager, Ziggy loved our country and community more than anything. Ziggy was an icon in the town of Riverhead, which boasts a large Polish-American population.

You could often find Ziggy planning and organizing events at the Riverhead Polish Hall, which was used to gather the community for parties, performances, and other gatherings. He was also instrumental in planning and organizing the iconic annual Riverhead Polish Town Festival. Speaking from experience, it is a fantastic event that draws thousands of people every year.

Thank you to Ziggy, his wife, Wanda, and his entire family for their service to our community. Ziggy was a great guy. He will be greatly missed, but I have no doubt his legacy will live on for generations to come.

#### SUPPORTING PEOPLE AFFECTED BY LA SOUFRIERE VOLCANO

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, on April 9, La Soufriere volcano on the Caribbean Island of St. Vincent began a series of explosive eruptions. The volcano has erupted several times since that date.

The eruptions have blanketed the island nation with clouds of volcanic ash and hot gas and are so large that they have reached the neighboring island of Barbados, 110 miles away. The eruption has resulted in the evacuation of tens of thousands of people.

Electric outages, destroyed crops and forests, wildlife killed, and water shortages are some of the immediate issues. The 16,000 evacuated residents present dire health issues as people are moved to congregant areas in a community that has had very little vaccination to date.

This natural disaster, along with other struggles brought on by COVID, will cause St. Vincent and the Grenadines to struggle for the next few years. It presents an opportunity for American action with humanitarian disaster relief, support for COVID vaccinations, and future technical assistance.

I am asking this body to use its influence and legislative actions to support

St. Vincent, to keep out China and its influence, along with Venezuela, in support of our brothers and sisters.

#### CONGRATULATING COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON CHEERLEADING TEAM

(Ms. MACE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, today I have the privilege to present congratulatory remarks to the College of Charleston cheerleading team on their historic weekend, winning their first national championship.

For the first time in school and program history, the College of Charleston cheerleaders won first place, under the direction of their head coach, Samantha Pairet, who stands as an exemplary leader of young athletes in South Carolina and around the country.

The team traveled to Daytona April 7 through 10 to compete in the Intermediate Small Coed Division I performance division, where they received a score of 94.23 and were crowned the Intermediate Small Coed Division I national champions. Way to go, Cougars.

#### MAKING EQUAL PAY A REALITY

(Mr. HORSFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

This morning, women across America drove to jobs where they will be paid lower salaries for equal work. Today, Black women make 63 cents and Hispanic women make 55 cents for every dollar earned by a White man. Over a lifetime, that gap grows to \$400,000, enough to pay off the mortgage and put two kids through college.

The Paycheck Fairness Act will not fix the systemic racism and sexism that are embedded in our Nation's treatment of women, but it will take us a step closer to making equal pay a reality.

I am proud to be voting, once again, to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. I am calling on all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me and pass this long-overdue bill into law.

#### SECURING OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the current crisis at our southern border.

In March, unlawful border crossings reached their highest level in 15 years. This includes nearly 19,000 unaccompanied minors, which represents a 99